ALASKA STATE BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC EXAMINERS

Date: May 15, 2020

Status: New

Organized by: The Alaska State Board of Chiropractic Examiners

Adopted by: The Alaska State Board of Chiropractic Examiners

PURPOSE: COVID-19 crisis impact on Alaskan chiropractors

HISTORY: On March 11, 2020 Governor Michael J. Dunleavy issued a Declaration of Public Health Disaster Emergency under AS 26.23.020(c) for COVID-19. Since that time Governor Dunleavy has issued several health mandates in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, and on March 13, 2020 Governor Dunleavy issued a mandate to close all public school statewide until March 30, 2020, which has since been extended until the end of the school year. Subsequent orders since that date have limited public gatherings, closed businesses, mandated 14-day quarantines for travelers, and recommended social distancing. Information and recommendations are ongoing and it is anticipated that these may change regularly. On April 10, 2020, Governor Dunleavy signed SB 241 into law, which allows boards to waive or modify continuing education requirements required for licensees to renew a professional license, permit, or certificate in calendar year 2020.

SUMMARY: The Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in changes to agency practices, most notably the cancellation or postponement of many seminars, conferences, and other activities pertaining to continued education. As a response, the Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners, in accordance with SB 241, Sec. 6(b)(1), voted to modify the continuing education requirements for licensed chiropractors for their December 31, 2020, renewal:

The Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners, per the provisions of SB 241, modify the chiropractic continuing education requirements by reducing the required 32 credits, for chiropractors that have been licensed for more than two years, to 16 credits, and allowing all of them to be done online, except for specific hands-on competency, such as dry needling. For all licensees, specific credit requirements such as X-ray, ethics/boundaries, coding/documentation, etc., shall be reduced to half.

The Alaska Board of Chiropractic Examiners’ authority to issue this emergency order is provided in SB 241